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October 22, 2019

Mayor Tory and Members of Toronto City Council
City Hall
100 Queen St. W. Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE: EX9.1 - TORONTO-ONTARIO TRANSIT UPDATE

Scarborough Transit Action (STA) , Connect Sheppard East (CSE) and 42 Voices is a coalition of grassroots advocacy and community organizations working to improve transit in Scarborough's underserved neighbourhoods, now.

We commend you for working to achieve an agreement in which the Province will fully fund its four priority projects and leave our existing transit infrastructure in Toronto's hands. It is also encouraging that the City will be allowed to redirect \$1.237 billion for the Scarborough subway levy toward other transit priorities.

Any agreement with the province must ensure a TTC fare, no delays, accessibility, safety, public ownership, operation and maintenance, cost effectiveness and prioritization of our underserved neighbourhoods.

Too many times, Scarborough residents have witnessed the cancellation, defunding and replacement of perfectly good transit plans, while other priorities move forward. Ten years have passed and we are no further ahead. Now the province has added another ten year delay to replace the aging Scarborough RT with a three-stop subway extension. What will happen when the SRT breaks down before 2030? How will those 35,000 SRT riders get to work on time?

Scarborough has two out of three of Toronto's most heavily travelled bus corridors.¹ We can't wait for plans that may or may not happen. We ask that you put the Eglinton East and the shovel-ready Sheppard East LRT back on the table for discussion with the Province. Second, we urge you to develop a fully funded contingency plan (not just shuttle buses) for the inevitable break down of the Scarborough RT and we urge you to ensure there is sufficient provincial funding to address existing TTC service and the \$33 billion backlog in maintenance and state-of-good repair.

Thank you for considering our concerns.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Robinson
Connect Sheppard East

Brenda Thompson
Scarborough Transit Action

Keth Navaratnam
42 Voices

¹ https://www.ttc.ca/Coupler/PDFs/Chief_Executive-Officer%27s_Presentation-January%2010%202019.pdf
scarboroughtransitaction.ca info@scarboroughtransitaction.ca 647-974-2928 @TransitScarb